

Ho-325

circa 1835

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings
Ellicott City
Private

These two frame buildings facing north on the southeast corner of Main Street and Merryman Street were constructed circa 1835 by Caleb Merryman on a tract of land called "Mount Misery", conveyed to Elias, John and George Ellicott by Thomas, Elias and William Brown.

Two two bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story frame structures are covered by a single gabled roof (running east-west) and share a one story high central alley and second and attic floor wall. Wide brick chimneys are inset into their exterior east and west walls. An open, hipped roof, one story high porch runs along the north elevation supported by five doric columns. Rectangular entrance doors, surmounted by four light transoms (the east now holds an air conditioner), rest on either side of the central rectangular alley entrance door.

An early two story high, shed roofed addition runs along the entire south elevation with further appendages on the east and west sides of its south wall.

The interior features original brick mantle pieces, wide, random width floors, original hardware and original woodwork. The second floor living room on the west side has been completely renovated by Mr. Allen Abend, the present owner, who has exposed all the supporting studs and half the ceiling joists, creating a cathedral ceiling effect.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Ho-325
Dist 2
MAGI # 1403255404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

AND/OR COMMON

The Abend House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
8331 - 8329 - 8333 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO limit	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: office

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Allen C. Abend

Telephone #: 461-2173

STREET & NUMBER

8333 Main Street

Office telephone 796-4420

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tax Map 25-A p.75

Hall of Records

Liber #: 747

Folio #: 277

Land Access: 2450

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

Building Access: 9200

Total Access: 11650

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1977

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Caleb Merryman House faces north on the southeast corner of Main Street and Merryman Street. Originally it was constructed of frame which has been covered with aluminum siding. Two two bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story frame structures are covered by a single gabled roof which runs east-west. A one story high alley runs between the two frame houses which share a common second floor and attic wall. Wide brick chimneys are inset into their exterior east and west walls.

Very soon after these buildings were constructed and prior to 1878 (see attachment 3) a two story high, shed roofed addition was built along their south wall. (See figure 1.) On the west it holds a first and second floor double-hung rectangular window with six-over-six lights, decorated with deep forest green shutters. Along the south wall of this addition may have been four similar windows. Only three are now evident as a two story high, one bay wide, one bay deep shed roofed addition springs from the first east bay of the south wall. See figures 1, 2 and 3. Its south wall holds a rectangular, double-hung window with one-over-one lights. Above a similar second floor window holds six-over-six lights. A square brick chimney is located in its northeast corner. A one story high, shed roofed addition springs from the south wall of addition I (see figure 1, 2 and 3).

A hipped roof, one story high open porch runs along the entire north elevation which faces Main Street. It is supported by five round wooden columns and two half columns attached to the east and west sides of the north wall. Two single granite steps, lying side by side, lead to the wooden porch and the two rectangular entrances which are separated by a rectangular door which leads into their common alley. Four light transoms surmount the east and west entrances. That on the east now holds an air conditioning unit.

The interior of the west side building is now owned by Mr. Allen Abend, an architect who is in the process of sensitively restoring this side of the duplex. The second floor living room has been completed, uncovering the original brick fireplace and random width floors as well as exposing the studs and ceiling joists of the room. Half the attic floor boards have been removed and the roof trusses revealed to create a cathedral ceiling effect of spaciousness. On the south side of the room, attic random width floor boards have been used for the ceiling (running east-west) above which is a pleasant attic loft.

Future plans include creating one large south room on the second floor addition which now holds partitions.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1835 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Caleb Merryman

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Merryman two frame buildings are of both architectural and historical significance as well as an example of Ellicott's Community Planning.

An early Ellicott Deed dated May 2, 1836 refers to these two frame buildings as "new" in the following passage:

"at the end of a line drawn up the South line of the Turnpike road North forty nine degrees and fifteen minutes West twenty feet from the north west corner of Caleb Merryman's new frame buildings on Lot number seventy two". (Ann Arundel Land Records WSG21-215)

This would indicate that the buildings were in existence in May, 1836 and were probably built some time between 1830-1835. An Ann Arundel deed dated 14 of January, 1837 between Jonathan H. Ellicott of Jonathan of Baltimore City and County and Caleb Merryman of the same county, in which Mr. Ellicott conveyed the land and Mr. Merryman's new frame buildings built upon the said lot to Mr. Merryman, located these lots on a tract of land called "Mount Misery". (WSG21-623)

"Mount Misery" was "part of 107 acres more or less conveyed by deed dated July 11, 1818 to Elias Ellicott, John Ellicott and George Ellicott by Thomas Brown and William Brown . . ." (WSG 21 - 178)

The plat of the Ellicotts dealing with a portion of this tract by William Dawson, Jr., Surveyor, dated July 25, 1836, (see attachment 2) exemplifies how the Ellicotts sub-divided their land and cut out streets. Notice that a pure grid is not followed. The contour of the land and granite cliffs dictate the street pattern which is a necessary and interesting element in the community planning of Ellicott Mills by the Ellicotts. In addition the Ellicotts held on to the land, leasing it for a term of ninety-nine years and requiring a yearly rent on same. In the case of Caleb Merryman he was required to pay a yearly rent of "twenty-four dollars lawful money of the United States free and clear of all deductions for taxes and assessments of every kind and nature whatever levied". (WSG 21-623)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Architecturally, the building is noteworthy as an example of an early frame duplex with central alley. Most houses of this period were of ashlar granite block or brick construction. The uncovering of the original studs and ceiling joists as well as the beam which continues through to the east side of the duplex by Mr. Abend is of particular significance architecturally. In addition the second floor brick mantle piece and chimney have been uncovered and put into safe working order. Machine cut and headed nails have been uncovered which were manufactured between the years 1815 and 1830's. Thence the construction of the building might be between those same years. Wide, random width attic floors also reveal an early date of construction. ✓ The shed roof, two story high addition along the south elevation dates prior to 1878 for the Hopkin's Atlas shows the configuration of the building to include the addition.

The building in 1835 was a one room up and one room down with attic and probably out door kitchen and toilet facilities. By 1878 the building had been enlarged to an additional first and second floor room. Very early additional appendages have been added on the south to provide kitchens.

The exposure of the roof structure indicates the lack of a ridge beam. The rafters are fastened with a tongue and mortice joint and pegged.

Noteworthy historically and architecturally, this building should be place on the National Register of Historic Places.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records
Private research compiled by Mr. Allen Abend, owner of the west side of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings.
Interview with Mr. Allen Abend at his home September 20, 1977.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1786 square feet

Please see attachment I, Tax Map 25-A

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see liber 747, folio 277
Howard County Land Records

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

465-5000 x257

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

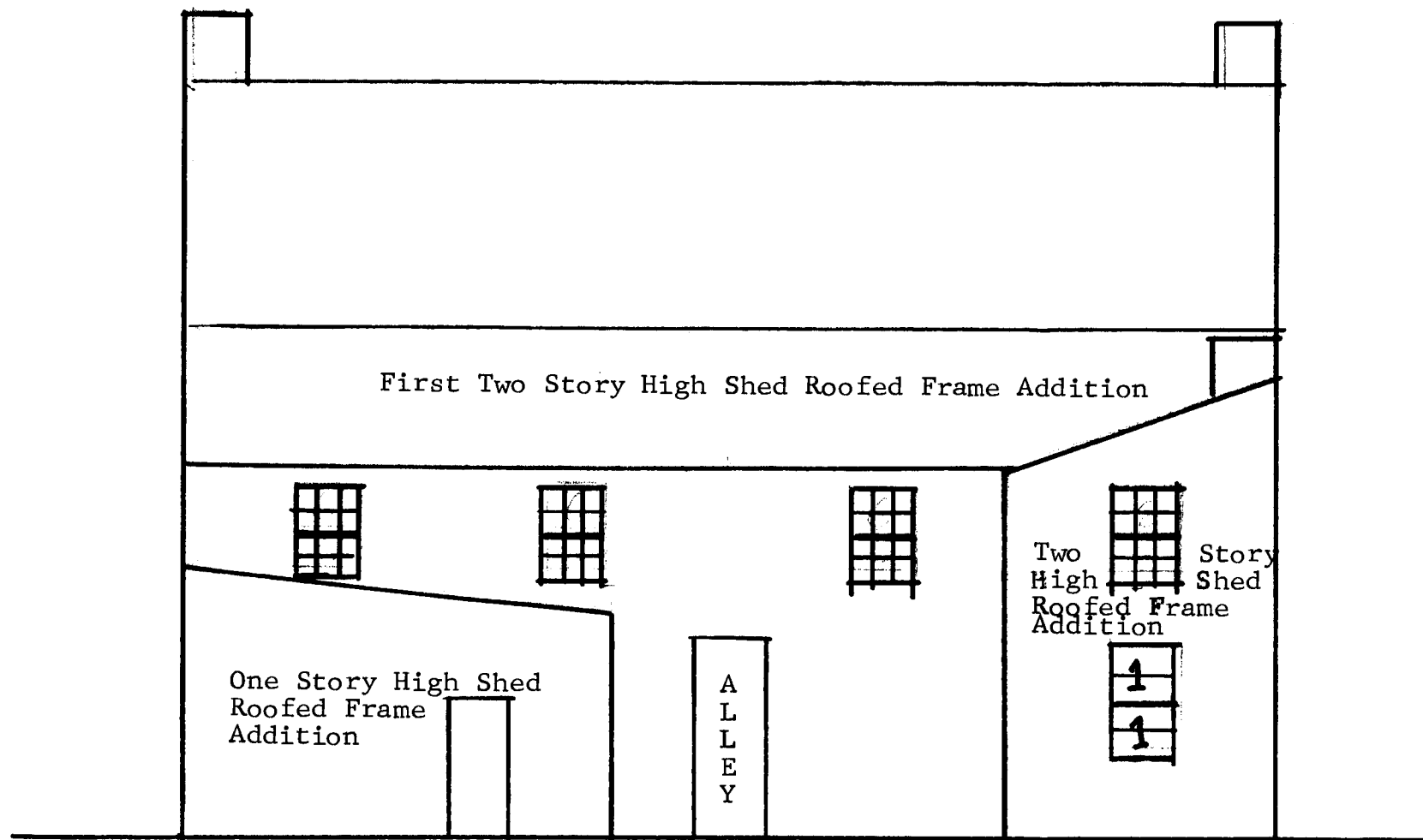
STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

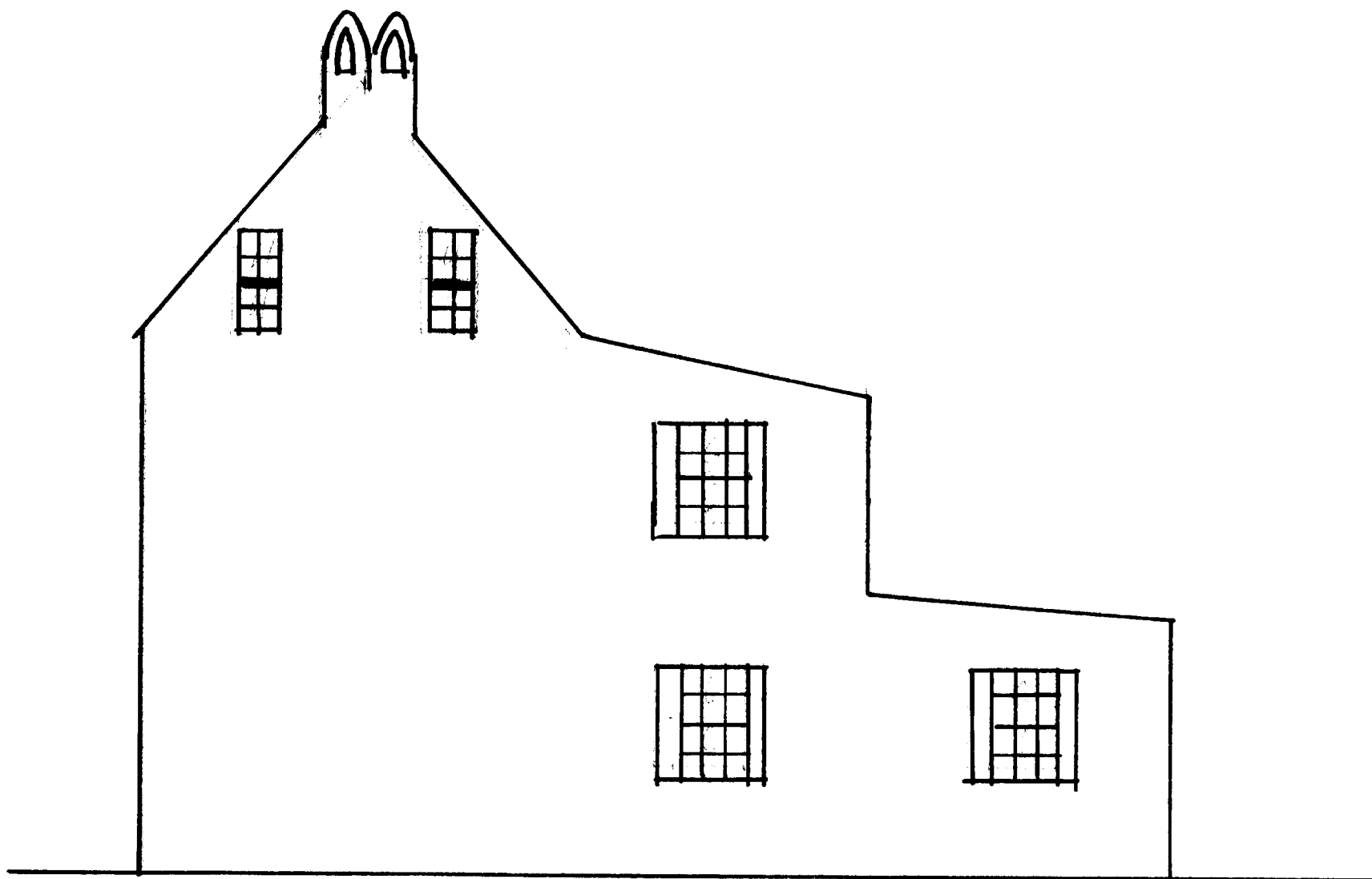
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



NOT TO SCALE

Figure I. South Elevation of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings



NOT TO SCALE

Figure 2. West Elevation of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

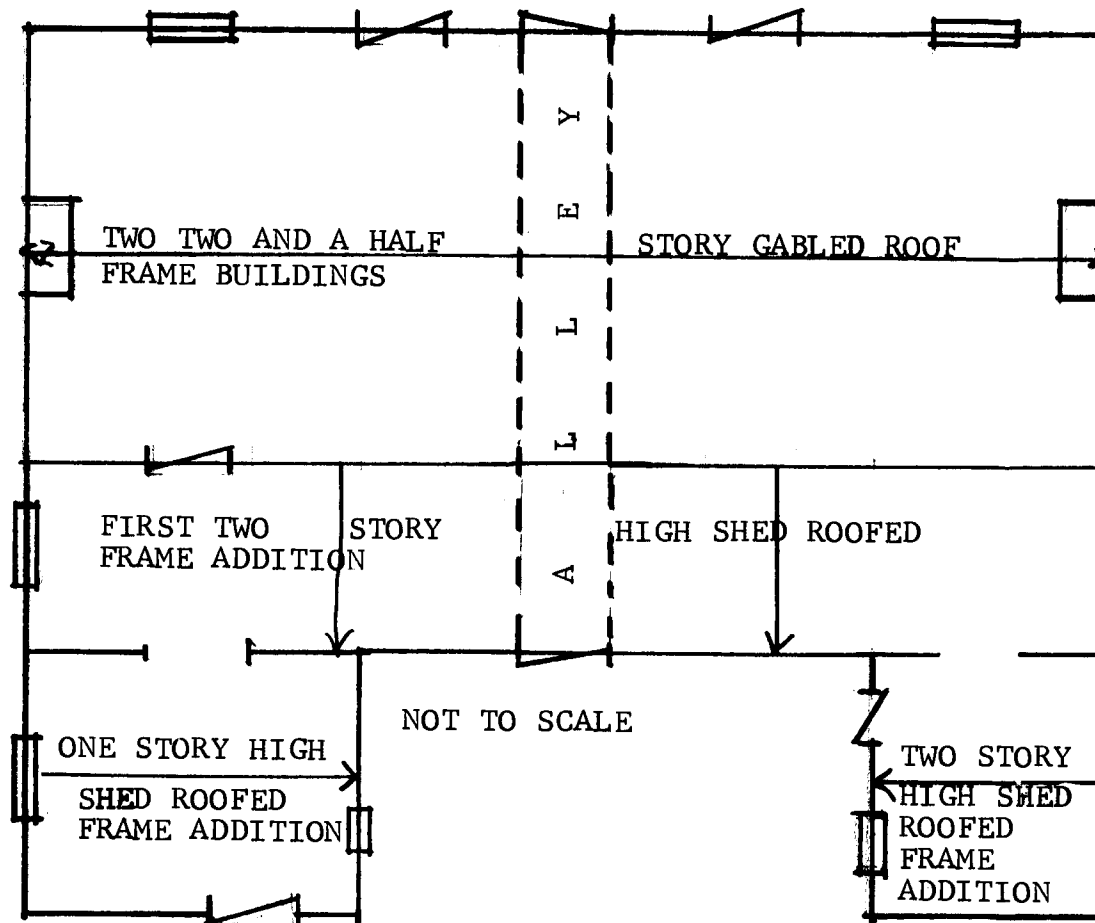
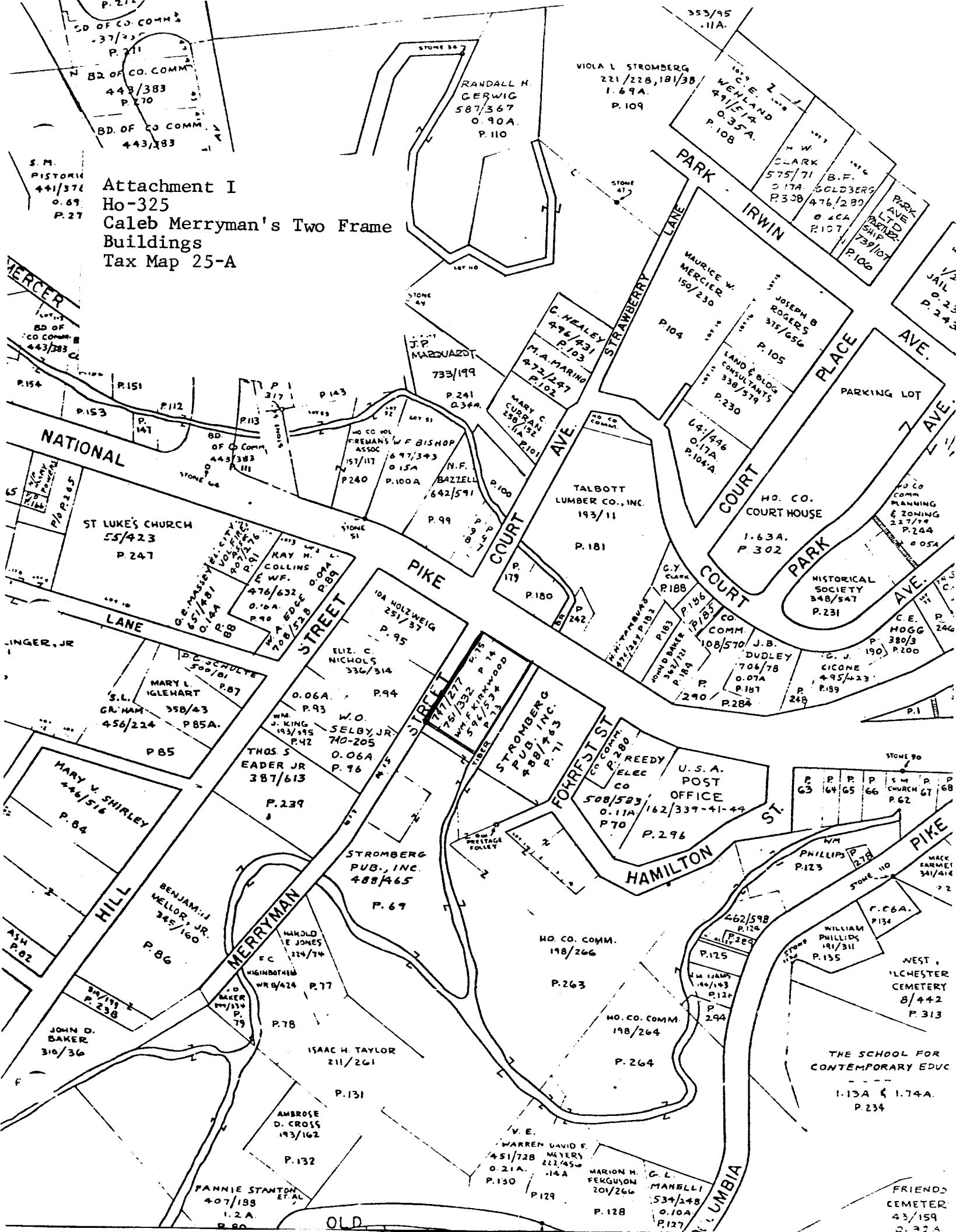
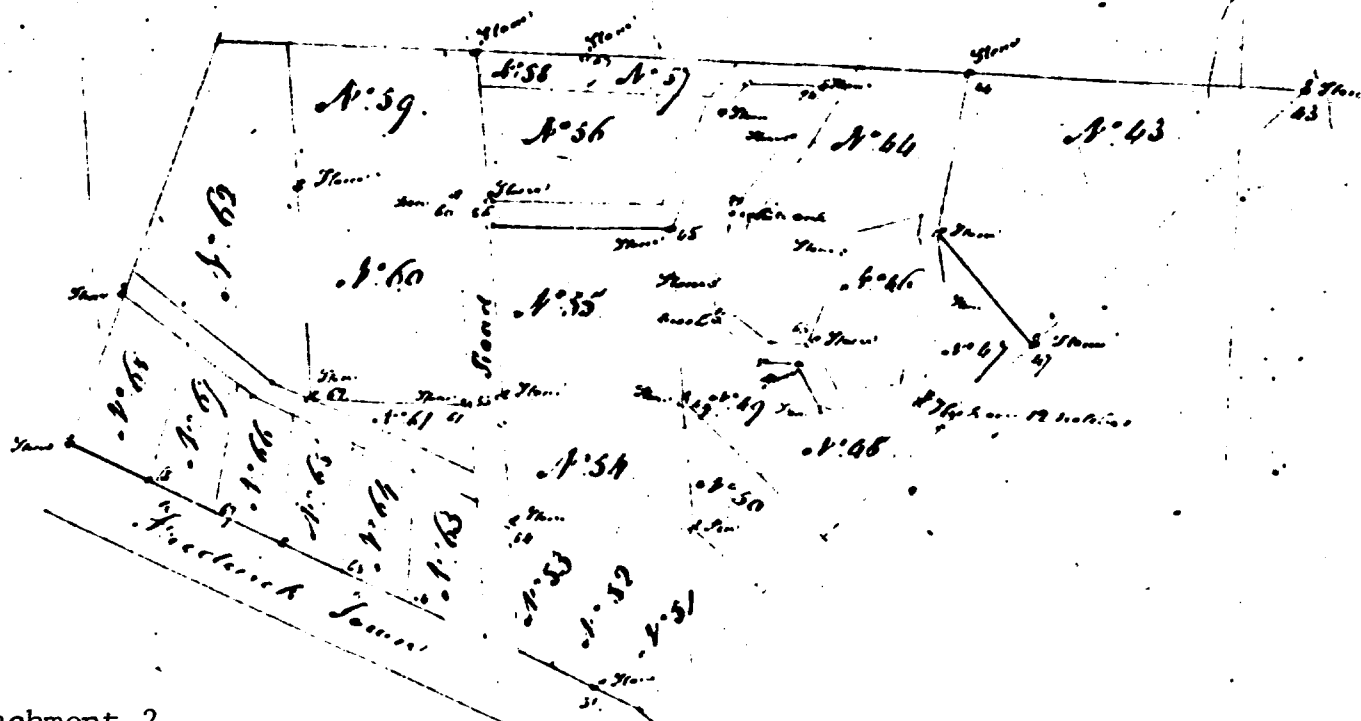


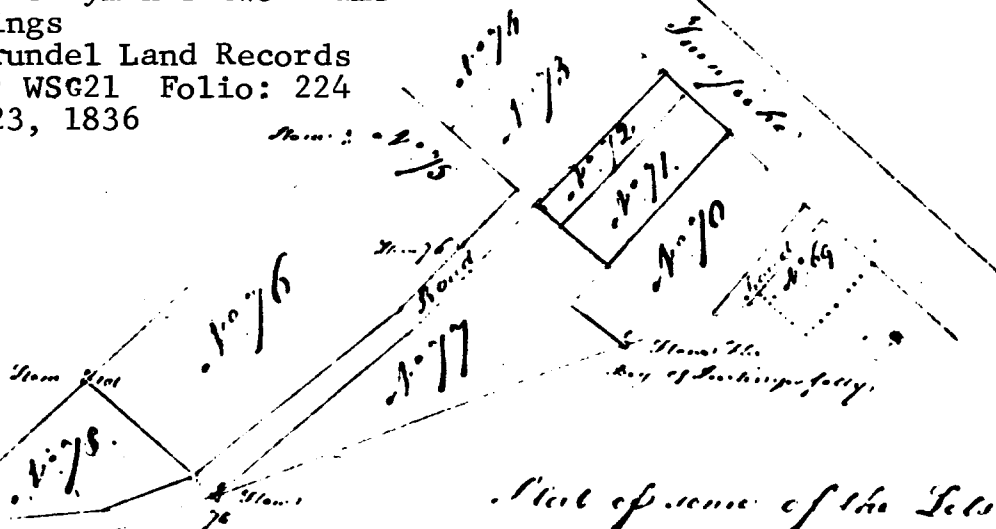
Figure 3. Site Plan of Ho-325 Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

Tax Map 25-A





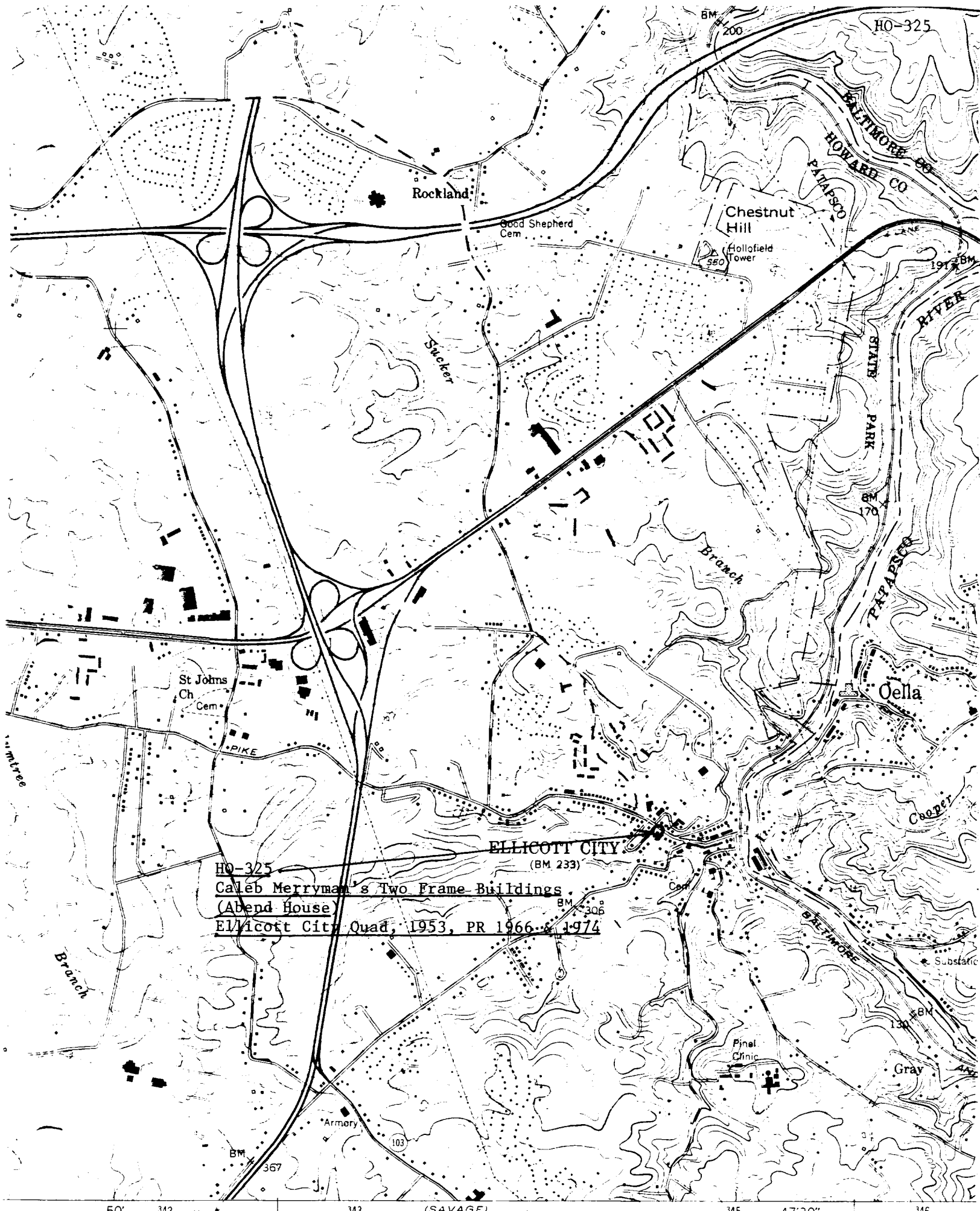
Attachment 2
 Ho-325
 Caleb Merryman's Two Frame
 Buildings
 Ann Arundel Land Records
 Liber: WSG21 Folio: 224
 July 23, 1836



Part of some of the Lots in Anne
 Arundel County. by a deed of eight per cent
 in an inch

by Wm Dawson Jr. Surveyor
 Recorded the 25th day of July 1836

This Indenture made this twenty third day of July in the year of our
 Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty six between John Dabney
 of the City of Annapolis Maryland of the one part and James Murray of the
 same place of the other part witnesses that it here is by two acres of the
 Right Court of Chancery of the State of Maryland bearing date the eighth day
 of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty six



HO-325

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

(Abend House)

Ellicott City Quad, 1953, PR 1966 & 1974

50' 342

343

(SAVAGE)

5662 III NE

SCALE 1:24,000

345

47°30'

346



~~HO-303~~

HO-325

8331 & 8333 Main St

827E

Sllicott City

Kirkland double house SE 8/12



HO-325
ABAND HOUSE
NORTH
SEPT. 1977

NE6 17A-18

CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON
PLANNING CONSULTANT
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY